

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: **PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
 (INCLUDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

DATE: **JULY 28, 2008**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS

SOKOL

BELDEN

TESSIER

CHAMPAGNE

MERLINO

STEC

TAYLOR

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT:

PATRICIA TATICH, DIRECTOR

WAYNE LAMOTHE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

JAMIE WHITE, SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

COORDINATOR

FREDERICK MONROE, CHAIRMAN

TRISH NENNINGER, SECOND ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

HAL PAYNE, COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE &

FISCAL SERVICES

JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD

TOM RANDALL, *THE ADIRONDACK JOURNAL*

SARAH MCLENITHAN, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Mr. Sokol called the Planning & Community Development Committee meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Tessier and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2008 Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Patricia Tatich, Director of Planning & Community Development, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of same is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Tatich addressed the Committee on the first Pending Item which, she noted, was in reference to inviting Dan Corcoran of the New York State Office of Technology to a future Committee meeting to discuss the benefits of broadband technology to Warren County. She added that the New York State Office of Technology had hired two new employees that had been given the task of presenting the benefits of broadband to communities and public officials and she would be calling their office to arrange for a presentation. She then questioned the Committee as to whether they wanted to have this presentation speak to the full Board, to which, Mr. Sokol replied that the presentation should start with the Planning & Community Development Committee. Ms. Tatich responded that she would attempt to arrange the presentation for next month's Committee meeting.

Chairman Monroe added that it was his feeling the Information Technology Committee should be included, as Robert Metthe, Director of Information Technology, had expressed interest in the broadband study. He also noted that he had a conversation with Bob Elliott, Deputy Secretary of State, and Mr. Elliott mentioned that they could possibly assist in the funding of the broadband study.

For Pending Item two, Ms. Tatich noted that she had contacted the Adirondack Community Housing Trust (ACHT) and had been informed that all partnerships with the ACHT were on hold until they hired a new Executive Director. She added she would contact them again in the fall.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Wayne LaMothe, Deputy Director of Planning & Community Development, who addressed the Committee on Pending Item three, the progress of the development of a work plan in conjunction with the Lake George Chamber of Commerce for an event coordinator to be paid using the First Heritage Corridor grant funds while they were available. Mr. LaMothe mentioned that he had been in discussion with Luisa Sherman, Executive Director of the Lake George Regional Chamber of Commerce, who had expressed an interest in pursuing this joint venture and he would provide further information to the Committee at a future meeting.

Mr. Sokol asked whether the County received grant funding for this project, to which, Mr. LaMothe replied affirmatively, and noted that the grant required matching funds and that the Lake George Chamber of Commerce would be supplying the required match in funds. He added he was unsure whether the funds were available in the Chambers 2008 budget and it still had not been determined which program this particular person would work on.

Mr. LaMothe requested to create budget codes CD 67 and to amend the 2008 County budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations, in the amount of \$125,000, to reflect the receipt of funds from the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC) Restore Program. He stated that the original application had requested \$57,000; however, he added, \$125,000 had been received.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the 2008 County budget, as outlined above and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. LaMothe requested to create budget codes CD 68 and to amend the 2008 County budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$300,000, to reflect receipt of funds from the HTFC Home Program. He noted that the application had been submitted for \$400,000 and \$300,000 had been received.

Mr. Belden questioned whether this funding pertained to a specific town, to which, Mr. LaMothe replied that some of the lake shore communities were included on a case by case basis. He noted that the requirement for funds being allocated to a Town, other than Warrensburg, would necessitate paperwork being submitted to the State for approval.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the 2008 County budget, as outlined above, and to forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Tatich presented a request for transfer of funds as follows:

Home Supplies (code CD60 8686 410) into Home-Office Equipment (code CD 8686 2210), in the amount of \$398.

Ms. Tatich added that these funds were necessary to complete the purchase of a replacement digital camera, as their current digital camera had become unreliable and photos were essential for defining home improvement work to be completed and for file documentation.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Tessier and carried unanimously to approve the request for transfer of funds, as outlined above, and to forward same to the Finance Committee for consideration. *A copy of the request for transfer of funds form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. LaMothe reported to the Committee that at the previous Committee meeting he had indicated that the Town of Johnsbury had been awarded \$505,000 under the New York State Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program and that the Town of Johnsbury had acted as the direct applicant, due to the fact that the County was not eligible to be a direct applicant.

He noted that the request had been for \$756,000; they had received funding in the amount of \$505,000 and he had confirmed that \$90,000 of the funds would be allocated to the Hadley Train Station site work. He said that he had been in contact with the Town of Hadley and they were also funded as part of this grant in the amount of \$80,000 and they would be providing the necessary matching funds. He added the Town of Lake Luzerne would receive \$25,000 for the extension from Bridge Street to Main Street and clarified that \$192,000 in material funds had been confirmed to be used as local matching funds by the County or Towns for renovations of buildings located at the Kellogg property.

He advised the Committee that there would be two studies as part of this funding that were in reference to the connection of Sullivan Island to Barton Mines and the economic impact it would have. He also added that under the new regulations the County was now eligible to apply for funding and the items that were not funded by the previous grant had been resubmitted by the County for the amount of \$256,000.

Mr. Belden expressed his concern with the safety of the platform at 1,000 Acres Resort and his feeling was that grant funds should be used to improve the condition of the platform. It was the consensus of the Committee to have Mr. LaMothe report back to them on this matter.

Moving along, Mr. LaMothe advised that he had been working with the City of Glens Falls and the Town of Queensbury to receive the materials necessary for the Canal Corridor Improvement Program and was awaiting an answer from the State. He noted that the City of Glens Falls was hoping to start work on this project and wanted to complete the project in the spring of 2009, before Haviland's Cove opened for the season.

Ms. Tatich added that the last item pertained to the need for more assistance with the cost of heating due to the increase in fuel costs. She said that she was in the process of organizing a meeting with all departments that have limited income and elderly clients to get a better understanding of which services were available to assist these individuals and she would report back to the Committee on this matter.

Mr. Sokol announced that Pat Hamilton had been recruited for the Empire Zone Administrative Board. He noted that she was a welcome addition, bringing with her 24 years of experience.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion by Mr. Merlino and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Mr. Sokol adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah McLenithan, Legislative Office Specialist